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(54) **ULTRA HIGH MOLECULAR WEIGHT POLYETHYLENE MOLDED ARTICLE FOR ARTIFICIAL JOINTS AND METHOD OF PREPARING THE SAME**

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Under 35 U.S.C. 154(b), the term of this patent shall be extended for 0 days.

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(58) **Field of Search** 623/18, 16, 23.58; 522/100, 161, 1; 525/333.8; 264/405, 435

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

An ultra high molecular weight polyethylene molded article for artificial joints has molecular orientation or crystal orientation in the molded article, and is low in friction and is superior in abrasion resistance, and therefore is available as components for artificial joints. Further, the ultra high molecular weight polyethylene molded article for artificial joints can be used as a component for artificial hip joints (artificial acetabular cup), a component for artificial knee joints (artificial tibial insert) and the socket for artificial elbow joints, and in addition to the medical use, it can be applied as materials for various industries by utilizing the characteristics such as low friction and superior abrasion resistance.

11 Claims, No Drawings